

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

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TAGS: PFOR, GR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO ADJOURNMENT OF CYPRUS TALKS;
TURKISH ARMS AID

1. NOT UNEXPECTEDLY THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE CYPRIOT INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS RECEIVED PROMINENT ATTENTION IN THE SEPTEMBER 11 ATHENS PRESS. REPORTS FOLLOW CLERIDES' LEAD AND PUT THE BLAME FOR THE FAILURE OF THE TALKS ON THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS BECAUSE DENKTASH DID NOT TABLE ANY PROPOSALS.

2. STORIES FROM NEW YORK ABOUT THE FAILURE OF THE TALKS TO MAKE ANY PROGRESS WERE PLAYED WITH REPORTS FROM NICOSIA THAT MAKARIOS WILL NOW ATTEND THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THAT CYPRUS AND GREECE WILL ASK THE UNGA TO DISCUSS THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. MAKARIOS' REMARKS THAT HE WILL RAISE THE QUESTION OF THE REFUGEES WHEN HE ADDRESSES THE UNGA WAS GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION.

3. THE PRESS HERE ALSO CARRIES REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON ALLEGING UNCLASSIFIED

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CONCERN WITHIN THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION THAT THE HOUSE MAY AGAIN

REFUSE TO ALLOW THE RESUMPTION OF ARMS SHIPMENTS TO TURKEY.
THE GENERAL FLAVOR OF THESE REPORTS IS THAT THE ADMINISTRATION FEARS
A "DEFEAT" IF THE HOUSE WERE NOW TO CONSIDER ARMS ASSISTANCE TO
TURKEY AND THUS HAS DECIDED TO POSTPONE SUBMISSION OF THE
LEGISLATION UNTIL OCTOBER. WOVEN INTO SEVERAL OF THESE REPORTS
IS THE SUGGESTION THAT THE STALEMATE IN THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS
HAS MADE THE ADMINISTRATION'S TASK OF GAINING CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT
FOR RESUMED ARMS AID TO TURKEY FAR MORE DIFFICULT.

4. NATO SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS' ACTIVITIES IN WASHINGTON, AND
REPORTS THAT HE WILL BE SEEKING TO PRESSURE CONGRESS TO
RESUME ARMS ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY, IS REPORTED IN SEVERAL PAPERS.
THE FLAVOR OF ALL THESE REPORTS WAS CAPTURED IN THE HEADLINE OF ONE
PAPERS (CONSERVATIVE ACROPOLIS) WHICH MADE THE NATO SECRETARY
GENERAL THE FOCUS OF ITS REPORT HEADLINING "LUNS BATTLING
FOR AID TO TURKEY."
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